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CPW Report No. 39 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Sept. 8-14, 1952)

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SUMMARY

Despite repeated illustrations of Russian leadership, pressure is necessary to get Chinese-Changchun Railway workers to accept Soviet techniques. Encouragement for those doubting Soviet superiority in building and operating railroads comes from admission that "poor construction" forced the closing of part of the new Chengtu-Chungking Railway.

Extravagant claims of Chinese victories and American defeats still are interlaced with charges of American perfidy at Kojé, and at Panmunjon, which is used as a "passageway for special agents." Nothing is said of Panmunjon's use by Communist soldiers as a passageway to freedom. Government action in taking over the Southwest silk industry might reflect Russian needs for cheap Chinese silk in her war industries, but the ability of accountants to find additional capital after courses to "reform their thinking" is not so easy to explain.

The first in a series of long speeches by East China officials reveal moves to expand Party controls, but also concern at lack of peasant enthusiasm for the dictatorship of the proletariat. After all, before the Sino-Soviet partnership, Mao's Communist drive was based on the peasantry. Further peasant dissatisfaction is apparent in refusal to report bumper crops, and need of production inspectors for protection against "reactionaries and lawless landlords."

Usual reports of farming achievements by People's Liberation Army units in the border areas are expanded to include successes in the Northeast. It is difficult to see why PLA units would be engaged in agriculture in this highly developed area except as guards for slave labor units. Similarities of the judicial reform movement to the anticorruption drives against businessmen are evident from reports of public accusation meetings, and replacement of conservative judicial personnel with more amenable workers and shop clerks.

Attendance at a public trial of only 2,000 persons seems surprisingly small, while sale by one store of 24,500 copies of Mao's book, but four million other volumes, indicates little enthusiasm for the Communist Sino-Soviet partnership.

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1. (1b) Peking Peace Conference:

Peking reported (Sept. 12) that the JEN MIN JIH PAO carried an article by Tikhonov, chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, endorsing the Peking peace conference. Peking (Sept. 14) reported messages from Shekov, Soviet Academy of Sciences Fellow, and the Moscow Garrison Commander, showing Russian enthusiasm for the meeting. Peking said (Sept. 12) that in Nepal, where young people were fighting for peace under the Nepal Youth League, a delegation to Peking had been selected.

2. (1c) Russian Superiority:

Peking (Sept. 12) broadcast a speech by Chang Lin-chih, leader of 12 Chinese peasants returning from the USSR, on the great achievements of the Soviet Union. Sian (Sept. 12) reported that the 12 peasants were impressed by Soviet superiority and the great future in store for Chinese agriculture through following the Russian example. Wuhan (Sept. 13) reported a reception for the returning peasants, with speakers promising that "China will follow in the path of the USSR."

According to Mukden (Sept. 11) the Northeast Sino-Soviet Friendship Association Photo Exhibit, making clear the progress of agriculture and industry in the Soviet Union, would be turned over to SSFA chapters for showing in all Northeast cities.

Peking in numeral code (Sept. 8) quoted Li Te-chuan, president of the Chinese Red Cross, as saying the organization had sent delegations to the USSR to benefit from "advanced experiences," and at Kunming had spent a half year studying Soviet advanced theories in treating intestinal and neurosis cases with secretions of toads and lizards. Kunming announced (Sept. 11) that local school children had spent their summer at Soviet-type camps, where they learned to emulate Russian methods.

3. (1c) Soviet Technical Guidance:

Mukden reported (Sept. 9) that railway cadres met to learn from Northeast Party officials that they must abolish all reservations and accept progressive Soviet techniques. The TUNG PEI JIH PAO was quoted as saying there was no room to doubt the superiority of Soviet railway techniques, as the Chinese-Changchun Railway, under the enthusiastic direction of Soviet experts, now was more efficient than under Japanese direction. It was necessary for cadres to "overcome the reluctance" of railway workers and take positive steps to see that they "eliminate their conservative thinking."

Chungking reported (Sept. 11) that 5,000 workmen were busy repairing the Tzuchung-Tzuyang Sector of the new Chungtu-Chungking Railway, which was damaged by floods "as a result of poor construction."

4. (2a) War Burdens:

Chinshow announced (Sept. 8) that "to fill the need for expert bricklayers," the Chinshow Construction Company had been training 70 women. Peking reported in numeral code (Sept. 9) that nurseries had been established in the Northeast China Rubber Company, greatly increasing the efficiency of women workers, "no longer encumbered by children."

5. (2a) War Propaganda:

Peking asserted in numeral code (Sept. 14) that Americans were using the Pannunjom truce area "as a passageway for special agents." Peking claimed (Sept. 8) that Gen. Boatner admitted mistreating prisoners at Kojé; called absurd (Sept. 9) the Harrison statement that prisoners were seeking asylum, and fraudulent the Rhee claim that 26,000 prisoners wanted to join the South Korean Army; and quoted REUTERS (Sept. 12) as saying a Kojé prisoner hanged himself "to escape American torture and attempts to force him to abandon repatriation rights."

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Peking said in numeral code (Sept. 14) that the International Scientific Commission had released its 300,000-word report on bacteriological warfare in China and Korea, and praised the "great care taken by the scientists in arriving at decisions."

Peking asserted (Sept. 11) that "American ruling circles" had been forced to admit that failure in Korea had upset their aggression timetable; had decided they "should not have started war in 1950, when they were not fully prepared," and should not have taken on the Chinese Volunteers; and had been forced to sit down and discuss a truce. The successful Chinese had driven the Americans from the Yalu to the 38th Parallel and killed 570,000 men, including 250,000 Americans.

Shanghai (Sept. 9) quoted Combat Hero Yu Fu-hsiang as urging children in a model airplane contest "to keep up their interest, and later defend their Nation with real planes."

6. (2c) Trade and Production Difficulties:

Kunming stated (Sept. 12) that private traders had been encouraged to carry goods to the wild Tali area of Yunnan in order to develop trade. Peking asserted (Sept. 10) that British trade unions were demanding increased trade with the USSR and China.

Tsinan reported (Sept. 12) that cadres had been ordered to check safety measures following 107 accidents in the Tsingtao Construction Company in August. Peking announced in numeral code (Sept. 11) that the First Machine Industry Ministry had issued a call for a survey of the Nation's machine shops, after which all shortcomings must be corrected to provide higher production in 1953.

Chungking stated (Sept. 14) that at a Southwest meeting of accounting personnel "to reform their thinking" and improve the accounting systems, "new working capital plans were worked out for the accumulation of capital for basic construction." Chungking announced (Sept. 15) that the Southwest government had placed all silk firms under its industrial department "to promote silk production."

7. (3a) Counterrevolutionary Indications:

Wuhan reported (Sept. 8) that the Communist Party had called for land inspection and crop assessment work, and protection against reactionaries and lawless landlords while the work was in progress. Kunming said (Sept. 9) that Yunnan rural cadres held a meeting to discuss measures to combat activities of counterrevolutionaries.

Mukden reported (Sept. 8) that a report on the labor reform program for prisoners was made at the Northeast Conference on Public Safety.

8. (3b) Acceptance of Communist Doctrine:

Foochow reported (Sept. 9) that the local New China Bookstore sold 24,500 copies of Volume Two of Mao Tse-tung's "Selected Works," and 4,000,000 copies of other books. Chungking stated (Sept. 9) that 2,000 people attended a public trial of marriage law violators.

9. (3c) Strengthening Party Controls:

Shanghai (Sept. 8) broadcast a speech by East China official Hsu Pi-yu declaring the Chinese Communist Party had only started toward achievement of its goal to build a completely socialist state; dictatorship of the proletariat, under Party leadership, was only the immediate goal.

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Shanghai (Sept. 10) quoted East China official Liu Cheng-yuan as saying: "The Soviet October Revolution brought Marxism-Leninism to China and created an example to be emulated. Therefore the workers in China have built a party based upon the ideologies of Mao Tse-tung and modeled after the Bolshevik Party." The immediate task of the party was to correct the errors of some segments of society. For instance, the peasants thought the struggle was benefiting only the workers. The Communist Party was the Party of the working class, but to liberate the Nation's workers "it is necessary to liberate all mankind." Only those with a full realization of this principle could become Party members.

Mukden announced (Sept. 11) that the Party in that area had increased propagandists to 448,218. Peking reported in numeral code (Sept. 10) that the All-China Democratic Women's League was undergoing a reorganization and personnel shakeup.

Wuhan said (Sept. 13) that 192 Youth Corps members had been admitted to the Communist Party. Shanghai reported (Sept. 8) that the South Kiangsu Party was planning to expand membership in Wuhsi, Wuhsien, Changchow, Chenchiang, and Changshu.

10. (3c) Judicial Controls:

Mukden (Sept. 14) quoted the TUNG PEI JIH PAO in severely criticizing the methods of the People's procurators' offices, and declaring that more active elements would have to be employed, as "violations of discipline" constantly occurred. Tsinan reported (Sept. 12) that courts in Lini and Itu hsien, Shantung, had failed to implement judicial reform or correct their shortcomings.

Peking announced (Sept. 11) that the Tientsin Judicial Reform Committee had set up three information boxes to receive complaints on the judiciary; and (Sept. 9) that the Central and South Government had designated Post Office Box 170 for complaints. Wuhsi asserted (Sept. 14) that the local People's Court was undergoing judicial reform through workers' meetings and public criticism, with court injustices numbering 479 cases exposed, after which 32 among the 58 judicial personnel "demanded to be reformed." Thirty active shop clerks and workers became judicial cadres.

11. (3e) Agricultural remolding:

Shanghai (Sept. 10) quoted Liu Cheng-yuan as follows: "China must change its peasantry from the use of scythes and hoes to tractors, and from individual to collective farming, if socialism and Communism are to be realized." Mukden announced (Sept. 8) that 224 Jehol families had organized a collective farm in Chengte Hsien, the first in the Province. Shinchow stated (Sept. 8) that farmers promised to promote mutual aid teams and collective farms after they had seen horsedrawn machinery at work on the Heishan State Farm, Liaosi.

Peking stated (Sept. 14) that by using Soviet implements, a unit of the People's Liberation Army in Sungchiang Province reaped bumper crops this year. Chungking reported (Sept. 9) that People's Liberation Army units had been sent to the Tibetan area of Kangting Hsien, Sikang, to build irrigation projects and develop state farms.

Chungking complained (Sept. 8) that in Nanpu Hsien, Szechwan, peasants refused to admit producing bumper crops, so cadres arbitrarily named certain ones bumper-crop producers and assessed them accordingly. Chungking added (Sept. 12) that Shang Chang-cheng had been ordered to return the citation and prize money he had incorrectly received as a reported bumper crop model. Kunming (Sept. 8) quoted the YUNNAN JIH PAO as urging cadres to "overcome the hesitations of the farmers, especially in minority areas."

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